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Market News

Issued **LIVESTOCK DIVISION** Weekly

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MARKET REVIEWS AND STATISTICS

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
LIVESTOCK DIVISION
Washington 25, D. C.

AGRI-WASH

MIDWEST LIVESTOCK MARKET REVIEW

Movement of cattle to the 12 markets decreased moderately compared with a week earlier due partly to the holiday on Wednesday and partly to substantial rainfall which also curtailed marketings, especially of cows. Trading on fed steers and heifers was fairly active and prices advanced 50¢-$1.00 at most markets. Reduced supplies of cattle and the first advance of any consequence for some time in wholesale beef prices were influences in the week's active trade on fed cattle. Prices of barrows and gilts closed steady to 50¢ higher at most midwest terminals, with late sales at a few Eastern Corn Belt markets weak to 50¢ lower. Supplies of slaughter lambs were short of demand and spring lambs closed unevenly 50¢-$2.00 or more higher for the week.

SLAUGHTER CATTLE AND CALVES

Substantial price advances of 50¢-$1.00 or more on fed steers and heifers featured the week's cattle trade. Influences in the upturn were the smallest cattle receipts of the year and higher wholesale beef prices. Reduction in marketings was due in large measure to the Wednesday holiday, with rather widespread rains also curtailing the movement particularly on cows, in some sections of the midwest. The pressure that had prevailed on prices of fed steers around 1150# up eased somewhat during the week and these heavier offerings were included in the full advance at some markets. Cows recovered part of the sharp decline of the previous week, closing steady to 50¢ higher at most points. Bulls sold steady to 50¢ higher, instances 75¢-$1.00 up. Vealers closed mostly steady, instances $1.00 higher, except at Chicago where late sales were $1.00-2.00 lower than a week previous.

About a dozen loads of Prime 1175-1400# fed steers brought $23.15-24.50 at Chicago early, numerous loads high-Choice and mixed Choice and Prime late $22.25-23.50. Choice bulked there early from $20.25-21.25, late $21.00-22.00. A few loads of Prime 1535-1615# steers brought $22.00-22.50 on that market, some Choice and Prime 1600-1700# $20.75-21.00. At other midwest terminals occasional loads of high-Choice and Prime steers cashed from $20.75-22.50, a few head $23.00, bulk Good and Choice $17.00-21.00. A load of high-Choice and Prime 840# heifers brought $22.25 at Chicago, a part load 1182# $22.00 at Sioux City, highest since October. Good and Choice vealers cleared from $19.00-24.00 at S. St. Paul and mostly $18.00-23.00 late at St. Louis National Stock Yards, Prime at both points upward to $25.00.

STOCKER AND FEEDER CATTLE AND CALVES

Changing weather conditions continued a dominant factor in the stocker and feeder trade. Fairly heavy rains during the latter part of May materially improved pasture and range conditions in many important grazing areas and had the dual effect of curtailing marketings and at the same time stimulating the demand. Receipts of stocker and feeder cattle at terminal markets were smaller than those of the previous week, but larger than a year ago. Shipments of steers to the country from the 10 markets totaled 12,864 compared with 16,669 the week before and 9,655 a year ago. Trading was fairly active at most markets with prices steady to 50¢ higher. A substantially higher price trend for fed cattle encouraged a fairly aggressive demand for fleshy feeders suitable for a short turn in the feedlot, and scattered loads of shortfeds were purchased for further feeding. However, slaughter outlet was broad and bulk of the fleshy "two-way" steers went to packers. Quality of the stockers showed further seasonal deterioration, relatively few grading better than average Good. Choice feeders also were in small supply. Indicative of the drop in quality was the fact that the average cost of all steers shipped to the country from Kansas City during the week at $17.27 was 20¢ lower than the previous week even though the price trend was materially stronger. Good and Choice feeder steers 800# up sold at midwest markets from $16.00-19.00, few partly fattened $19.50. Good and low-Choice yearling stock steers brought $16.00-

19.50, Medium $14.00-16.00, inferior and Common stockers usually in small lots $10.00-13.00. Good and Choice yearling heifers sold from $15.00-17.75. The same grades of steer calves brought $17.00-21.50, few to $22.75; heifer calves mostly downward from $18.50.

HOGS

Receipts showed a moderate decrease compared with the previous week but continued above those of a year ago. Prices for butchers declined previous to the Wednesday holiday. Shippers were aggressive buyers, especially the latter part of the week, however, and with wholesale fresh pork prices moving sharply upward, early declines on butchers were regained at the majority of midwest trading centers. Late sales at a few Eastern Corn Belt markets were weak to 50¢ lower but with those exceptions, closing transactions were mainly steady to 50¢ higher for the week, extremes as much as $1.00 up. Sows sold unevenly 50¢ higher to 50¢ lower for the period. Occasional mixed grade lots were sorted for grade with No. 1 and 2 lots selling from 25-75¢ above mixed No. 1 to 3 offerings of comparable weight. General bulk of No. 1 to 3 180-270# butchers sold late at midwest markets from $17.00-17.75, some No. 1 and 2 lots to $18.25. Most 190-270# butchers brought $15.75-17.25 in the Interior Iowa - Southern Minnesota trade, some No. 1 and 2 up to $17.60. Midwest sow prices varied from $12.50-16.50.

Feeder pigs closed 50¢ lower at Sioux City, Good and Choice $14.00-14.75. Prices were steady to 50¢ higher at S. St. Paul with most sales from $15.00-16.00. Small lots of 140# feeders brought $13.50 at Kansas City. Price trend at Memphis was steady to $1.00 lower, Medium and Good 70-140# feeders cashing there from $11.00-12.00, few Choice to $13.00.

SHEEP AND LAMBS

Marketings decreased compared with those of the previous week due in large measure to the midweek holiday, and prices of spring lambs showed substantial advances, recovering much of the recent declines. An additional price-strengthening influence was the generally good demand for dressed lamb and uneven and in some instances sharp upturns in wholesale dressed lamb prices. The week's advance on spring lambs at Chicago measured 25-50¢ with upturns of 50¢-$1.50 at St. Louis National Stock Yards. At other Missouri River terminals prices were boosted $1.50-2.00 in an active trade. At Fort Worth advances of $2.50-3.00 virtually recovered the severe decline of the previous week. Old crop lambs were scarce at midwest markets and sold mostly steady to 50¢ higher. Slaughter ewes were steady to 50¢ lower, feeder lambs scarce, unchanged.

Good to Prime spring lambs bulked for the week from $25.00-28.00, a few late at Chicago $28.50-29.00. Good and Choice old crop shorn lambs with No. 1 and 2 pelts brought mostly $21.00-23.00, Good to Prime 88-102# at Chicago $22.50-24.50, 20 head $25.00. Cull to Choice shorn slaughter ewes cleared from $2.50-5.50, mostly $5.00 down. Good Southwestern feeder lambs cashed from $19.00-20.00, few $20.50-21.00, Good and Choice shorn feeders $16.00-17.50, few $18.00.

WESTERN LIVESTOCK REVIEW

Trading on slaughter cattle at Far West terminal markets was interrupted by the holiday and prices showed a rather uneven trend. Slaughter steers and heifers were in good demand, closing 50¢-$1.00 higher at Denver, steady to 25¢ higher at Los Angeles and Portland and steady to 25¢ lower at other markets. Sales of cows ranged mostly steady to 50¢ lower; calves and vealers weak to $1.50 lower; stocker and feeder cattle mostly steady. Barrows and gilts closed from 75¢ lower to 75¢ higher; spring slaughter lambs mostly steady to 50¢ lower except for a $1.00 advance at Ogden.

At Western terminal markets Good and Choice fed steers 1200# down brought $18.50-20.00, several loads Choice $20.25-20.50, high-Choice to $21.25 at Portland and $21.50 at Denver. Most Good and Choice heifers sold from $18.00-19.50, some Choice $20.40 at Ogden and up to $21.40 at Denver. Utility and Commercial cows

Continued on page 464.

RECEIPTS, SALABLE AND TOTAL OF LIVESTOCK AT PUBLIC STOCKYARDS
Month of May

Market	Cattle				Calves			
	Salable		Total		Salable		Total	
	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955
Chicago	182,204	194,907	194,764	200,234	7,401	8,514	9,670	11,094
Cincinnati	17,501	18,566	21,898	23,447	6,326	6,225	6,611	6,912
Denver	61,776	72,712	87,171	91,364	3,228	3,731	4,887	6,893
Fort Worth	52,864	77,842	70,743	101,246	8,681	16,815	13,416	21,508
Indianapolis	42,341	37,922	42,874	38,628	5,462	6,511	5,462	6,586
Kansas City	83,657	88,157	121,436	133,868	6,863	7,732	14,654	17,265
Oklahoma City	58,291	59,586	65,247	62,147	5,632	6,346	6,362	8,988
Omaha	172,314	196,035	177,372	201,542	3,843	5,335	4,272	5,938
St. Joseph	61,299	60,140	62,370	62,242	5,420	4,113	6,435	5,244
St. Louis NSY	78,660	74,273	100,498	93,297	18,355	18,386	24,216	26,111
Sioux City	92,978	107,005	100,029	115,100	1,248	2,452	2,014	3,625
S. St. Paul	95,368	91,335	98,328	93,223	36,166	34,995	38,282	36,830
Total	999,253	1,078,480	1,142,730	1,216,338	108,625	121,155	136,281	156,994

	Hogs				Sheep			
Chicago	181,397	198,161	229,592	236,734	16,301	39,676	25,483	53,980
Cincinnati	57,687	50,657	59,151	54,258	2,314	2,251	4,115	6,064
Denver	14,404	11,725	54,029	44,194	22,320	35,591	61,531	46,037
Fort Worth	17,291	11,495	53,507	48,377	156,780	204569	183,596	229,849
Indianapolis	179,584	160,620	179,584	160,620	4,238	2,804	5,947	4,751
Kansas City	55,526	34,401	61,773	39,903	47,797	63,303	104,415	124,140
Oklahoma City	25,265	14,366	66,381	36,856	18,580	16,983	32,899	36,056
Omaha	148,416	147,495	226,299	209,643	32,590	55,120	43,442	70,452
St. Joseph	112,989	98,374	126,807	105,488	23,704	24,856	42,575	53,314
St. Louis NSY	279,139	185,558	302,394	211,300	14,839	21,305	65,191	75,549
Sioux City	102,813	114,037	129,199	125,098	16,875	23,715	29,252	34,352
S. St. Paul	198,073	177,080	216,166	194,893	13,059	20,759	27,945	37,649
Total	1,372,584	1,203,969	1,704,882	1,467,364	369,397	510,932	626,391	772,193

INTERIOR IOWA AND SOUTHERN MINNESOTA

	Hogs	Sheep
May 1956.....	1,125,100	91,500
May 1955.....	1,108,500	109,900

WEEKLY RECEIPTS OF SALABLE LIVESTOCK AT 12 PUBLIC MARKETS

Market	Cattle		Calves		Hogs		Sheep	
	June 2 1956	June 4 1955	June 2 1956	June 4 1955	June 2 1956	June 4 1955	June 2 1956	June 4 1955
Chicago	37,081	38,768	1,751	1,702	38,055	41,681	2,912	5,597
Cincinnati	3,888	3,646	1,190	1,054	11,120	10,090	697	1,440
Denver	12,127	13,166	421	471	2,519	2,786	2,660	4,450
Fort Worth	12,351	17,718	2,195	3,343	4,029	2,293	31,411	31,388
Indianapolis	8,485	6,450	1,148	1,134	32,669	29,468	1,080	631
Kansas City	15,913	14,240	1,689	1,137	11,701	6,205	8,254	12,022
Oklahoma City	8,764	11,628	1,058	1,146	4,972	2,463	2,602	2,774
Omaha	35,083	33,507	703	486	31,759	25,392	7,476	13,045
St. Joseph	10,385	13,278	1,215	831	24,654	18,769	7,722	3,773
St. Louis NSY	15,398	13,342	3,662	3,367	56,014	36,325	3,503	4,256
Sioux City	19,152	19,582	225	391	21,664	20,401	2,814	4,266
S. St. Paul	17,076	15,910	6,495	6,144	34,379	31,142	2,006	1,679
Total	195,703	201,235	21,750	21,206	273,535	227,015	73,137	85,321
May 26, 1956	236,033		27,197		291,207		81,490	

INTERIOR IOWA AND SOUTHERN MINNESOTA

Week ended:	Hogs	Sheep
June 2, 1956	214,000	17,300
May 26, 1956	244,000	22,800
June 4, 1955	206,500	22,400

FEEDER AND STOCKER CATTLE: AVERAGE COST, WEIGHT, AND NUMBER

	Week ended			Month		Five months	
	May 31 1956	May 24 1956	June 2 1955	May 1956	May 1955	Jan.-May 1956	Jan.-May 1955
Steers – 1001# up	90	414	24	1,367	2,107	8,302	13,062
901-1000	628	581	715	3,341	4,842	26,383	39,412
801-900	1,622	1,786	1,100	8,747	7,646	54,880	59,633
701-800	2,720	3,090	1,662	14,182	13,229	69,581	69,119
501-700	7,804	10,798	6,154	41,098	41,101	187,115	200,452
Total steers 10 mkts.	12,864	16,669	9,655	68,735	68,925	346,261	381,678
Av. wts. " " "	671#	678#	677#	686#	692#	704#	714#
Av.cost* " " "	$16.62	$16.84	$18.29	$16.98	$18.95	$16.86	$19.93
" " " Chicago	18.15	18.64	19.61	17.93	20.33	17.49	20.31
" " " Ks. City	17.27	17.47	19.35	17.68	20.01	17.41	20.74
" " " Omaha	16.52	17.20	18.40	16.95	18.51	16.72	19.86
" " " S. St. Paul	16.26	16.17	16.13	16.05	17.23	15.58	18.09
" " " Sioux City	17.90	17.80	17.93	17.78	19.63	17.20	20.35
" " " Denver	17.81	18.01	19.21	17.78	20.17	17.40	21.59
" " " Ft. Worth	14.82	15.85	17.71	15.68	17.58	16.25	18.74
" " " Okla. City	14.70	15.29	17.28	15.72	17.45	16.14	18.82
" " " S. St. Joseph	15.81	16.32	19.79	16.48	18.44	16.53	19.67
" " " Natl. Stk. Yds.	17.22	16.63	18.38	16.95	18.49	16.46	18.88
Total calves–10 mkts.	5,284	6,898	3,802	26,322	28,552	117,892	153,845
" cows.							
heifers, bulls– " "	3,911	4,777	3,152	20,116	19,681	69,644	83,474

* Not adjusted for differences in grade of cattle sold at each market.

BEEF STEERS SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS FOR SLAUGHTER

Grade	Number of head			Percent of total by grades			Average weight (pounds)			Average price in dollars per 100 lb.		
	Week ended											
	May 31 1956	May 24 1956	June 2 1955	May 31 1956	May 24 1956	June 2 1955	May 31 1956	May 24 1956	June 2 1955	May 31 1956	May 24 1956	June 2 1955
CHICAGO												
Prime	1569	1135	988	6.1	3.7	3.8	1311	1264	1286	22.92	22.57	24.67
Choice	15595	19320	17551	61.1	62.6	68.2	1172	1183	1147	21.22	20.66	22.74
Good	7478	9829	6118	29.3	31.8	23.8	1018	1036	1003	19.36	18.89	20.24
Com'l.	643	535	941	2.5	1.7	3.6	939	945	946	16.88	16.06	17.08
Utility	246	67	146	1.0	.2	.6	900	803	824	14.72	14.45	14.52
All grades	25531	30886	25744				1127	1134	1109	20.70	20.15	22.08
OMAHA 1/												
Prime	207	101	88	1.2	.6	.5	1248	1251	1198	21.64	21.43	24.00
Choice	11565	12034	11609	64.5	67.3	67.3	1154	1142	1114	19.71	19.56	21.84
Good	5425	4951	4185	30.2	27.7	24.2	1016	1011	1014	17.95	17.86	19.61
Com'l.	597	646	1208	3.3	3.6	7.0	901	948	974	15.42	15.39	17.10
Utility	151	147	170	.8	.8	1.0	867	866	907	13.62	13.70	14.84
All grades	17945	17879	17260				1103	1097	1078	19.09	18.97	20.99
SIOUX CITY 1/												
Prime	246	38	118	2.6	.4	1.2	1203	1264	1270	21.31	21.00	24.07
Choice	6031	6326	6588	64.0	71.6	63.8	1138	1132	1138	19.82	19.42	21.88
Good	2923	2163	3028	31.1	24.5	29.3	999	1014	1044	18.45	17.92	19.66
Com'l.	171	292	463	1.8	3.3	4.5	986	1020	968	16.08	15.81	17.48
Utility	46	21	126	.5	.2	1.2	867	866	1067	14.50	13.94	14.97
All grades	9417	8840	10323				1092	1099	1104	19.39	18.97	21.04
KANSAS CITY 1/												
Prime	17	23	60	.3	.4	1.4	934	1087	1208	22.41	20.92	23.79
Choice	2687	2391	2394	51.5	46.0	56.2	1076	1096	1093	20.03	19.67	22.26
Good	2266	2501	1469	43.4	48.0	34.5	1004	1064	1023	18.56	18.34	19.93
Com'l.	230	251	286	4.4	4.8	6.7	999	995	917	15.63	15.40	16.71
Utility	23	34	52	.4	.8	1.2	874	878	930	12.94	12.63	14.55
All grades	5223	5200	4261				1040	1074	1057	19.21	18.81	21.10
ST. LOUIS NSY 1/												
Prime	--	--	6	--	--	.1	--	--	1003	--	--	24.42
Choice	1323	1948	1813	27.2	38.5	43.3	1084	1083	1050	20.11	19.86	22.16
Good	2674	2208	1811	54.9	43.6	43.2	1012	1001	950	18.89	18.70	20.02
Com'l.	554	659	452	11.4	13.0	10.8	898	915	879	17.22	17.22	17.37
Utility	315	246	108	6.5	4.9	2.6	964	887	840	15.49	15.31	14.67
All grades	4866	5061	4190				1015	1016	983	18.87	18.86	20.65
S. ST. JOSEPH 1/												
Prime	78	1	27	1.9	.1	.4	1167	1030	1272	20.67	21.46	23.50
Choice	2349	3136	3044	56.7	57.8	47.3	1104	1114	1121	19.50	19.15	21.85
Good	1394	1694	2762	33.6	31.2	42.9	1014	1028	1033	17.96	17.65	20.19
Com'l.	265	504	517	6.4	9.3	8.0	944	958	940	15.98	15.09	17.43
Utility	59	89	89	1.4	1.6	1.4	867	869	889	12.94	13.10	14.94
All grades	4145	5424	6439				1061	1069	1066	18.76	18.28	20.78

Continued.

BEEF STEERS SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS FOR SLAUGHTER

Grade	Number of head			Percent of total by grades			Average weight (pounds)			Average price in dollars per 100 lb.		
	Month											
	May 1956	Apr. 1956	May 1955	May 1956	Apr. 1956	May 1955	May 1956	Apr. 1956	May 1955	May 1956	Apr. 1956	May 1955
CHICAGO												
Prime	5243	7466	4656	4.2	5.5	3.8	1289	1291	1242	22.82	23.51	25.65
Choice	77470	78483	74065	61.6	58.2	59.9	1174	1192	1139	20.70	20.56	23.09
Good	38666	40789	35789	30.8	30.2	29.0	1026	1047	1012	18.78	18.34	20.66
Com'l.	3690	7339	8021	2.9	5.4	6.5	940	980	960	15.99	15.83	17.65
Utility	671	866	1037	.5	.7	.8	937	991	915	14.39	14.20	15.10
All grades	125740	134943	123568				1125	1141	1093	20.12	19.87	22.18
OMAHA 1/												
Prime	815	996	730	1.0	1.3	.9	1296	1303	1304	21.78	22.63	24.67
Choice	53219	44105	54300	64.4	58.4	64.5	1149	1169	1107	19.69	19.42	21.87
Good	24697	25215	22393	29.9	33.4	26.6	1018	1030	995	17.92	17.65	19.40
Com'l.	3104	3854	5285	3.7	5.1	6.3	941	986	969	15.32	15.44	17.06
Utility	796	1383	1447	1.0	1.8	1.7	878	900	923	13.60	13.68	15.04
All grades	82631	75553	84155				1101	1110	1067	19.04	18.66	20.91
SIOUX CITY 1/												
Prime	797	930	378	1.7	2.6	.8	1281	1344	1266	21.90	22.19	24.46
Choice	31283	23456	28582	68.1	64.6	61.8	1140	1168	1125	19.64	19.56	21.85
Good	11867	9846	12874	25.8	27.1	27.8	1027	1035	1040	18.08	17.57	19.74
Com'l.	1786	1668	3628	3.9	4.6	7.9	995	1014	985	16.01	15.56	17.53
Utility	224	386	776	.5	1.1	1.7	1000	975	1035	14.14	14.03	15.22
All grades	45957	36286	46238				1107	1128	1090	19.16	18.93	20.90
KANSAS CITY 1/												
Prime	147	273	222	.1	.9	1.0	1090	1240	1177	22.22	21.47	23.90
Choice	12765	12356	10711	51.3	41.9	49.9	1096	1112	1088	19.89	19.65	22.49
Good	10523	13897	8212	43.3	47.2	38.3	1049	1050	1014	18.40	18.07	20.05
Com'l.	1293	2467	1972	5.2	8.4	9.2	1002	1027	963	15.69	15.77	16.93
Utility	168	484	336	.1	1.6	1.6	923	1017	943	13.37	14.15	14.75
All grades	24896	29477	21453				1070	1075	1047	19.04	18.55	21.02
ST. LOUIS NSY 1/												
Prime	8	39	49	--	.1	.2	1171	1136	1171	22.50	22.50	25.15
Choice	9397	9388	6300	32.9	29.4	28.2	1084	1094	1042	19.70	19.37	22.40
Good	12715	14263	11410	44.8	44.6	51.1	986	1008	973	18.49	17.80	20.43
Com'l.	4762	6983	3455	16.8	21.8	15.5	893	939	889	16.91	16.30	18.07
Utility	1563	1314	1127	5.5	4.1	5.0	868	872	832	15.07	14.49	15.75
All grades	28445	31987	22341				996	1013	973	18.52	17.88	20.50
S. ST. JOSEPH 1/												
Prime	218	262	151	.8	.9	.6	1194	1219	1114	21.15	21.20	23.47
Choice	14588	14263	11936	55.6	50.3	43.8	1116	1133	1114	19.57	19.46	22.06
Good	8913	10121	11526	34.0	35.7	42.2	1030	1048	1031	17.92	17.71	19.93
Com'l.	2160	3367	3161	8.2	11.9	11.6	952	984	1002	15.72	15.74	17.20
Utility	362	331	501	1.4	1.2	1.8	902	878	896	13.55	13.45	14.81
All grades	26241	28344	27275				1071	1083	1062	18.69	18.41	20.55

Continued.

BEEF STEERS SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS FOR SLAUGHTER

Grade	Number of head			Percent of total by grades			Average weight (pounds)			Average price in dollars per 100 lb.		
	Week ended											
	May 31 1956	May 24 1956	June 2 1955	May 31 1956	May 24 1956	June 2 1955	May 31 1956	May 24 1956	June 2 1955	May 31 1956	May 24 1956	June 2 1955
	DENVER 1/											
Prime	--	174	44	--	2.8	.7	--	1317	1209	--	21.42	23.50
Choice	5341	4932	5085	76.7	77.8	78.3	1152	1138	1105	20.32	19.50	22.71
Good	1489	1149	1274	21.4	18.1	19.6	1069	1014	1036	18.95	18.61	20.51
Com'l.	124	81	94	1.8	1.3	1.4	1046	951	996	15.76	15.08	16.12
Utility	11	--	--	.1	--	--	901	--	--	14.41	--	--
All grades	6965	6336	6497				1132	1118	1090	19.96	19.37	22.22

Grade	May 1956	Apr. 1956	May 1955	May 1956	Apr. 1956	May 1955	May 1956	Apr. 1956	May 1955	May 1956	Apr. 1956	May 1955
	DENVER 1/											
Prime	581	176	141	1.9	.6	.5	1312	1337	1196	21.65	21.49	23.71
Choice	23365	19931	21477	77.5	70.0	77.0	1134	1145	1111	19.74	19.61	22.76
Good	5636	7652	5763	18.7	26.9	20.6	1039	1050	1025	18.45	18.24	20.73
Com'l.	358	454	466	1.2	1.6	1.7	1014	1006	998	15.44	15.65	16.09
Utility	214	247	57	.7	.9	.2	956	996	885	14.09	14.06	12.76
All grades	30154	28460	27904				1117	1117	1091	19.48	19.18	22.25

1/ These summaries developed from data collected on marketing of fed cattle by the Agricultural Estimates Division.

ESTIMATED FEDERALLY INSPECTED SLAUGHTER AND MEAT PRODUCTION

Week Ended	Beef		Veal		Pork (excl. lard)		Lamb and Mutton		Total meat prod.	Total lard prod.
	Number	Prod.	Number	Prod.	Number	Prod.	Number	Prod.		
	1,000	mil.lb.	1,000	mil.lb.	1,000	mil.lb.	1,000	mil.lb.	mil.lb.	mil.lb.
June 2, 1956	337	184.0	132	17.0	896	122.3	218	10.0	333.3	--
May 26, 1956	360	196.6	137	17.3	1,013	138.3	230	10.8	363.0	--
May 19, 1956 1/	355	--	129	--	1,040	--	234	--	--	37.1
June 4, 1955	323	171.5	120	15.1	775	112.4	250	11.5	310.5	29.3
Percentage change from:										
May 26, 1956	-6	-6	-4	-2	-12	-12	-5	-7	-8	--
June 4, 1955	+4	+7	+10	+12	+16	+ 9	-13	-13	+7	--

Week ended	Average weight (lb.)								Lard yield per 100 lb.
	Cattle		Calves		Hogs 2/		Sheep and Lambs		
	Live	Dressed	Live	Dressed	Live	Dressed	Live	Dressed	
June 2, 1956	985	546	235	129	245	136	95	46	--
May 26, 1956	985	546	230	126	245	136	96	47	--
May 19, 1956	985	546	225	124	244	137	96	47	--
June 4, 1955	958	531	226	126	258	145	94	46	14.7

1/ Actual slaughter. 2/ Excludes lard.

WEEKLY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION AT MAJOR CENTERS

City or Area	Cattle		Calves		Hogs		Sheep and lambs	
	June 2 1956	June 4 1955	June 2 1956	June 4 1955	June 2 1956	June 4 1955	June 2 1956	June 4 1955
Boston, New York City Area..	12,167	10,236	11,163	12,031	45,453	38,567	36,696	40,995
Baltimore, Philadelphia.....	6,650	7,174	1,534	1,405	21,606	22,864	2,679	1,692
Cin., Cleve., Detroit, Indpls..	16,580	15,287	8,063	7,071	76,137	56,645	13,436	11,751
Chicago Area.....	23,398	23,491	7,043	6,378	38,188	43,218	3,432	6,462
St. Paul-Wisc. Areas.....	28,246	23,364	21,060	18,675	68,704	63,865	4,620	6,788
St. Louis Area.....	13,405	13,655	5,032	6,084	64,865	45,027	7,819	10,115
Omaha Area.....	29,327	28,746	782	568	57,433	47,172	6,834	14,273
Kansas City.....	13,178	12,499	3,736	3,359	22,544	18,524	8,854	12,155
Iowa-So. Minnesota 1/.....	35,258	33,012	11,301	9,381	193,592	188,192	20,411	29,546
Lou'l.Evan'l.Nash'l.Mph's...	9,153	8,460	9,864	6,983	43,194	32,019	2/	2/
Georgia-Alabama Area.....	6,182	7,466	3,097	3,603	21,476	10,769	2/	2/
St. Jo'ph.Wichita, Okla.City.	14,557	16,318	3,048	3,546	32,608	30,660	9,255	16,065
Ft.Worth, Dallas, San Antonio	17,569	22,077	8,205	6,794	14,339	12,321	27,187	29,269
Denver, Ogden, Salt Lake City.	16,539	14,471	826	804	12,167	11,365	17,922	10,429
Los Angeles, San Fran. Areas.	22,971	23,503	3,385	3,567	29,769	23,020	24,857	32,541
Portland, Seattle, Spokane....	6,429	6,058	490	479	12,391	9,705	4,055	4,172
Total.....	271,609	265,817	98,629	90,728	754,466	653,933	188,057	226,253
Accumulation to date.....	6,530,833	6,276,817	2,280,408	2,309,696	24,828,345	20,996,482	5,211,334	5,411,593

1/ Includes Sioux City. 2/ Not available.

ESTIMATED PERCENT OF FEEDER AND STOCKER CATTLE AND SLAUGHTER COWS IN SALABLE RECEIPTS

Week ended	Chicago	Kansas City	Omaha	S. St. Joseph	St. Louis NSY	Sioux City	S. St. Paul	Indianapolis	Denver	Fort Worth	Okla. City	Wichita	San Antonio
					Feeders and stockers								
June 1, 1956	4	27	8	13	4	16	8	9	7	40	25	30	35
May 25, 1956	5	29	14	11	5	20	5	15	10	25	35	45	45
June 3, 1955	4	19	9	4	11	7	5	6	7	35	60	21	37
					Slaughter cows								
June 1, 1956	6	16	11	20	18	6	25	11	10	20	18	26	40
May 25, 1956	6	16	12	23	16	8	25	12	12	20	20	43	25
June 3, 1955	8	14	9	12	21	5	20	16	10	30	16	19	30

CATTLE: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS

In dollars per 100 pounds

Classification	Chicago			Kansas City			Omaha		
	May 31 1956	May 26 1956	June 4 1955	May 31 1956	May 26 1956	June 4 1955	May 31 1956	May 26 1956	June 4 1955
Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers									
Steers –									
Prime 900–1100#	23.54	23.05	24.75	22.67	22.00	24.38	22.44	22.42	24.50
1100–1300	23.62	23.35	25.00	22.42	21.50	24.25	22.31	22.25	24.75
Choice 900–1100	21.58	21.08	23.00	20.75	20.00	22.38	20.18	19.98	22.06
1100–1300	21.58	21.08	23.00	20.62	19.62	22.38	20.12	19.85	21.88
Good 900–1100	19.17	18.52	19.91	18.29	17.42	19.62	17.38	17.30	19.50
Com'l. All wts.	16.54	16.00	17.00	15.71	14.95	16.62	15.00	15.00	17.12
Heifers –									
Prime 600–800#	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Choice " "	20.79	20.22	21.72	20.04	19.40	21.38	19.68	19.62	21.69
Good 500–900	18.77	18.18	19.50	17.71	17.06	19.00	17.25	17.25	19.16
Com'l. All wts.	16.21	15.88	16.69	15.00	14.48	16.25	15.00	15.00	16.69
Cows – All weights									
Commercial	13.29	13.52	14.06	12.29	12.60	13.50	12.25	12.65	14.03
Utility	12.08	12.35	12.31	11.04	11.35	11.75	11.28	11.70	12.28
Canner & Cutter	10.96	11.22	10.75	9.79	9.85	10.25	9.90	10.38	10.41
Bulls – All weights –									
Good	13.58	13.15	13.25	--	--	--	12.75	12.75	13.31
Utility & Commercial	15.21	14.86	15.24	13.38	13.30	13.38	13.50	13.50	14.02
Vealers – All weights –									
Choice & Prime	22.67	24.50	22.75	19.50	20.00	21.00	21.00	21.50	20.00
Com'l. & Good	17.83	19.50	18.38	16.00	16.80	17.00	16.50	16.50	16.00
Calves – 500# down									
Choice & Prime	18.83	20.20	19.50	17.00	17.50	19.50	18.50	18.50	18.50
Com'l. & Good	15.00	16.00	16.00	14.00	14.80	15.50	15.00	15.00	14.50
Feeder and stocker cattle and calves									
Steers –									
Choice 500–800#	20.12	20.12	22.25	19.62	19.50	23.00	19.38	19.38	21.75
Good " "	17.75	17.75	20.25	17.62	17.20	20.50	17.25	17.25	19.75
Medium 500–1000	15.62	15.62	17.25	15.00	14.80	17.00	14.62	14.62	16.75
Heifers –									
Choice 500–750	17.62	17.62	19.00	17.88	17.50	18.75	17.38	17.38	18.75
Med. & Gd. " "	15.00	15.00	16.00	15.12	14.75	15.75	14.88	14.88	15.00
Cows – All weights –									
Medium & Good	--	--	--	10.75	11.00	11.25	10.88	11.38	11.25
Calves – 300–500# –									
Steers –									
Good & Choice	20.75	20.75	21.50	19.00	18.85	21.75	19.25	19.25	21.25
Heifers –									
Good & Choice	17.50	17.50	18.50	17.25	16.80	18.25	16.50	16.75	17.50

HOGS: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS

In dollars per 100 pounds

Classification		Chicago			Interior Iowa and southern Minnesota			Indianapolis		
		June 2 1956	May 26 1956	June 4 1955	June 2 1956	May 26 1956	June 4 1955	June 2 1956	May 26 1956	June 4 1955
Barrows and gilts –										
U.S.No.1	160–180#	16.75	16.85	17.84	15.06	15.09	16.46	16.41	16.48	18.00
2 and 3	180–200	17.62	17.96	19.00	16.48	16.59	17.69	17.81	18.05	19.25
	200–220	17.74	17.98	18.92	16.86	16.96	17.94	17.88	18.16	19.12
	220–240	17.72	17.92	18.59	16.64	16.74	17.56	17.78	17.95	18.88
	240–270	17.29	17.60	17.69	16.16	16.30	16.94	17.25	17.60	17.94
	270–300	17.00	17.32	16.75	15.68	15.78	16.19	16.59	16.82	16.94
Sows –										
	300–330#	15.62	15.82	15.62	15.32	15.41	14.74	14.81	14.88	15.41
	360–400	14.83	15.12	14.34	14.63	14.80	13.64	14.06	14.42	14.12
	450–550	13.83	14.05	13.00	13.32	13.58	12.94	13.12	13.45	12.81
Pigs (stocker and feeder)–										
Gd. & Ch.	70–120#	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

		Omaha			St. Louis National Stock Yards			Sioux City		
Barrows and gilts –										
U.S.No.1	160–180#	--	--	--	16.73	17.06	18.84	--	--	--
2 and 3	180–200	17.31	17.52	18.78	17.56	17.72	18.97	16.62	16.82	18.12
	200–220	17.31	17.52	18.78	17.56	17.78	18.84	17.18	17.36	18.44
	220–240	17.31	17.52	18.78	17.56	17.78	18.50	17.12	17.24	18.38
	240–270	17.18	17.05	17.94	17.16	17.40	17.61	16.83	16.88	17.69
	270–300	16.68	16.65	16.69	16.77	17.01	16.31	16.25	16.25	16.47
Sows –										
	300–330#	15.78	16.08	15.59	15.00	15.55	14.69	15.75	16.02	15.44
	360–400	15.06	15.32	14.28	14.62	15.18	13.50	14.71	15.30	14.16
	450–550	13.38	13.78	12.56	13.72	14.30	12.25	13.33	14.08	12.50
Pigs (stocker & feeder)–										
Gd. & Ch.	70–120#	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

		S. St. Paul			Baltimore			N. Portland		
Barrows and gilts –										
U.S.No.1	160–180#	17.38	17.22	18.28	17.58	18.12	20.04	18.00	18.53	19.62
2 and 3	180–200	17.59	17.98	18.41	18.21	18.92	20.46	18.62	19.31	20.27
	200–220	17.59	17.98	18.38	18.21	18.92	20.46	18.62	19.31	20.27
	220–240	17.59	17.90	18.03	18.04	18.53	20.04	18.50	19.12	19.88
	240–270	17.25	17.52	17.22	17.46	17.50	19.04	17.12	18.00	18.88
	270–300	16.41	16.68	15.97	16.88	16.48	17.54	16.25	17.62	18.12
Sows –										
	300–330#	15.81	16.18	15.38	13.92	14.79	14.75	15.50	16.00	15.75
	360–400	14.75	15.35	14.09	13.92	14.75	14.54	13.75	14.25	14.88
	450–550	13.72	14.28	12.25	12.32	13.44	12.42	12.25	12.75	14.00
Pigs (stocker & feeder)–										
Gd. & Ch.	70–120#	15.38	15.50	17.68	--	--	--	--	15.50	--

HOGS: AVERAGE COST, WEIGHT, AND NUMBER OF PACKER AND SHIPPER PURCHASES 1/

	Week ended	Chicago	St. Louis Natl. Stock Yards	Kansas City	Omaha	Sioux City	S. St. Joseph	S. St. Paul	Indianapolis	8 mkts. combined
AVERAGE COST –					Dollars per 100 pounds					
Barrows and gilts	June 2,1956	17.36	17.35	16.95	17.01	16.98	16.94	16.87	17.62	17.20
	May 26,1956	17.67	17.53	17.12	17.23	16.98	17.14	17.35	17.88	17.44
	June 4,1955	17.92	18.56	17.92	17.72	17.79	17.91	17.64	18.71	18.10
Sows	June 2,1956	14.42	14.29	14.10	14.75	14.76	14.39	14.74	13.52	14.44
	May 26,1956	14.67	14.79	14.26	15.00	15.26	14.86	15.49	13.73	14.86
	June 4,1955	13.92	13.42	13.37	14.26	14.15	14.16	14.16	13.23	13.96
AVERAGE WEIGHT –					Pounds					
Barrows and gilts	June 2,1956	230	217	217	224	224	218	225	225	222
	May 26,1956	231	217	218	222	228	216	222	224	222
	June 4,1955	241	218	224	239	236	223	228	225	229
Sows	June 2,1956	407	397	403	374	363	377	365	442	389
	May 26,1956	421	400	404	376	374	375	364	443	393
	June 4,1955	406	415	420	371	366	383	352	458	385
NUMBER OF HEAD –										
Barrows and gilts	June 2,1956	25767	49608	10709	22265	15311	20185	23949	26897	194691
	May 26,1956	26351	49495	11021	23329	16047	20587	28936	31491	207257
	June 4,1955	28321	31773	5244	15396	12492	15735	18510	24001	151472
Sows	June 2,1956	8333	4687	826	6725	4661	2140	7382	3973	38727
	May 26,1956	7787	4425	1015	6598	4585	2570	8259	4579	39818
	June 4,1955	8731	2949	432	8610	5939	2195	9629	3646	42131
SOWS					Percentage of total					
	June 2,1956	24	9	7	23	23	10	24	13	17
	May 26,1956	23	8	8	22	22	11	22	13	16
	June 4,1955	24	8	8	36	32	12	34	13	22

1/ Weighted average.

WEEKLY AVERAGE WHOLESALE VALUE OF HOG PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM 100 LB. LIVE HOG, COMPARED WITH PRICES OF LIVE HOGS, CHICAGO

	Hog products 1/	Hog prices 2/	Gross spread or margin 3/
June 2, 1956	$19.57	$17.74	$1.83
May 26, 1956	19.09	17.98	1.11
June 4, 1955 4/	19.98	18.92	1.06

1/ Value of all edible products, fresh basis (lard rendered) in 100 lb. of live hog computed from wholesale prices on carlot basis, Chicago, reported by National Provisioner daily market report.

2/ Mean of daily quotations on U.S.No. 1, 2 and 3 hogs 200-220# wt.Chicago.

3/ Difference between wholesale product value and hog prices. 4/ Revised.

HOG AND CORN PRICES AT CHICAGO AND HOG-CORN PRICE RATIO

Week ended	Barrows and gilts Dollars per 100 pounds	Corn, 1/ No. 3, yellow Cents per bushel	Hog-corn price ratio based on barrows and gilts
June 2, 1956	17.36	151.6	11.5
May 26, 1956	17.67	154.1	11.5
June 4, 1955	17.92	146.2	12.3

1/ Simple average price.

HOGS: AVERAGE COST, WEIGHT, AND NUMBER OF PACKER AND SHIPPER PURCHASES 1/

	Month	Chicago	St. Louis Natl. Stock Yards	Kansas City	Omaha	Sioux City	S. St. Joseph	S. St. Paul	Indianapolis	8-mkts. combined
AVERAGE COST -					Dollars per 100 pounds					
Barrows and gilts	May 1956	16.36	16.36	16.24	16.23	16.14	16.22	16.22	16.53	16.31
	Apr.1956	15.13	15.09	14.98	14.96	14.86	15.04	14.78	15.17	15.01
	May 1955	17.24	17.67	17.21	16.87	16.61	17.16	16.69	17.84	17.21
Sows	May 1956	13.73	13.80	13.64	14.37	14.50	14.15	14.40	12.78	13.92
	Apr.1956	12.84	12.66	12.53	12.86	12.67	12.93	12.66	12.13	12.66
	May 1955	13.80	13.51	13.38	13.57	13.40	13.68	13.51	13.17	13.53
AVERAGE WEIGHT -					Pounds					
Barrows and gilts	May 1956	231	217	218	224	228	216	224	224	223
	Apr.1956	233	219	218	226	230	216	223	223	223
	May 1955	241	218	226	235	237	226	231	226	230
Sows	May 1956	418	404	410	378	373	379	370	442	397
	Apr.1956	421	407	409	390	391	386	388	441	407
	May 1955	419	414	433	380	372	389	368	454	396
NUMBER OF HEAD -										
Barrows and gilts	May 1956	129546	244774	50312	109468	77250	96889	150558	146739	1005536
	Apr.1956	148223	249841	51271	133475	100627	109329	176475	164520	1133761
	May 1955	150261	163385	30179	105615	82414	84943	124670	132539	874006
Sows	May 1956	35028	19122	3652	26331	17056	9471	32084	21392	164136
	Apr.1956	24488	15683	2872	17413	8852	7543	18330	16661	111842
	May 1955	28057	12862	2117	33446	20218	9570	33077	18075	157422
SOWS					Percentage of total					
	May 1956	21	7	7	19	18	9	18	13	14
	Apr.1956	14	6	5	12	8	6	9	9	9
	May 1955	16	7	7	24	20	10	21	12	15

1/ Weighted average.

MONTHLY AVERAGE WHOLESALE VALUE OF HOG PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM 100 LB. LIVE HOG, COMPARED WITH PRICES OF LIVE HOGS, CHICAGO

	Hog products 1/	Hog prices 2/	Gross spread or margin 3/
May 1956	$18.35	$16.81	$1.54
Apr. 1956	17.19	15.44	1.75
May 1955 4/	19.67	18.08	1.59

1/ Value of all edible products, fresh basis (lard rendered) in 100 lb. of live hog computed from wholesale prices on carlot basis, Chicago, reported by National Provisioner daily market report.

2/ Mean of daily quotations on U.S.No. 1, 2 and 3 hogs, 200-220# wt.Chicago.

3/ Difference between wholesale product value and hog prices. 4/ Revised.

HOG AND CORN PRICES AT CHICAGO AND HOG-CORN PRICE RATIO

Month	Barrows and gilts 1/ Dollars per 100 pounds	Corn, No. 3, yellow Cents per bushel 1/	Hog-corn price ratio based on barrows and gilts
May 1956	16.36	152.3	10.7
Apr. 1956	15.13	145.2	10.4
May 1955	17.24	148.2	11.6

1/ Weighted average.

SHEEP AND LAMBS: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS
In dollars per 100 pounds

		Chicago	Omaha	Kansas City	Fort Worth	Denver	Ogden & North Salt Lake	South San Francisco
LAMBS (SPRING) -								
Choice and Prime	June 2, 1956	27.50	27.25	27.17	--	27.75	25.25	23.75
	May 26, 1956	27.80	25.82	25.60	--	27.85	24.20	24.25
	June 4, 1955	24.00	23.25	23.56	--	23.28	22.16	19.50
Good and Choice	June 2, 1956	26.25	25.90	25.33	21.95	25.88	24.00	22.75
	May 26, 1956	26.52	24.48	23.68	20.30	25.98	22.95	23.25
	June 4, 1955	22.75	22.00	22.56	21.60	21.38	20.91	19.00
LAMBS - 105# down (SHORN) -								
Choice and Prime	June 2, 1956	24.00	--	--	--	23.75	--	--
	May 26, 1956	23.95	--	20.90	--	23.90	19.00	--
	June 4, 1955	19.44	--	17.50	--	--	--	--
Good and Choice	June 2, 1956	23.12	21.62	--	19.85	22.38	18.00	--
	May 26, 1956	23.08	21.30	19.20	20.15	22.50	17.00	--
	June 4, 1955	18.50	17.75	16.19	15.45	17.38	--	--
EWES (SHORN) -								
Good and Choice	June 2, 1956	5.00	4.75	4.50	--	5.25	5.50	--
	May 26, 1956	5.00	5.25	4.75	--	5.35	5.50	--
	June 4, 1955	5.62	4.50	4.75	--	5.84	4.50	--
Cull and Utility	June 2, 1956	4.00	3.75	3.58	--	3.25	3.25	3.00
	May 26, 1956	4.00	4.00	3.75	--	3.30	3.25	3.00
	June 4, 1955	4.50	3.50	3.75	--	3.88	3.00	--
FEEDER LAMBS -								
Good and Choice	June 2, 1956	--	20.00	--	15.55	--	--	20.25
	May 26, 1956	--	20.00	--	15.25	--	--	20.00
	June 4, 1955	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

WESTERN LIVESTOCK REVIEW - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 453

cashed from $11.50-14.00; Canners and Cutters $7.00-11.50. Good and Choice vealers brought $19.50-23.00, some Choice to $25.00; most slaughter calves of the same grades $18.00-21.50. Medium to Choice stocker and feeder steers cleared from $16.00-18.25; comparable heifers $14.00-17.00.

Good and Choice fed steers sold direct from California feedlots at mostly steady prices, largely $19.00-20.00, several loads $20.25-20.75; Commercial and Good steers $17.00-18.50. Most Good and Choice fed heifers brought $18.00-19.50. Medium and Good stocker and feeder steers earned $16.00-18.00, few high-Choice 518# yearlings $18.75.

U. S. No. 1 to 3 barrows and gilts 180-240# closed from $19.50-20.00 at Los Angeles; $18.50 at San Francisco, Spokane and Ogden; $19.25 at Portland and $18.25 at Denver.

Good and Choice spring lambs cleared at Denver from $25.00-27.50, few $27.75, with Choice Idaho's $26.00 at Ogden. At other markets Good to Prime spring lambs brought $22.00-24.00; Good-Choice old crop lambs $15.00-18.00.

NEW YORK WHOLESALE MEAT TRADE REVIEW

Western Dressed Fresh Meats

Receipts of steer beef were moderate to barely normal, veal and calf moderate. Unloads of lamb and fresh pork were smaller, the reduction evident mainly after Wednesday. The work week was shortened as wholesale establishments in the Metropolitan Area were closed Memorial Day. Demand was moderately broad before the holiday, and slow to fair thereafter. Clearances were fairly complete, although action on veal and calf eased somewhat late. Prices on all classes except veal, calf and cow beef turned higher. Compared with Friday, a week ago: Steer beef steady to $1.00 higher; cow beef, veal and calf unchanged; spring lamb $4.00-7.00 higher, old crop $2.00-5.00 up; pork loins $5.00-7.00 higher, other fresh pork cuts steady to $7.00 higher.

Major portion of the total steer beef supply consisted of Choice carcasses scaling around 850# down. Prices advanced on these, while Good and Prime, which were represented in fair volume, sold only steady. Ribs moved best of the various wholesale cuts and closed fully $5.00 higher. Movement of cow carcasses and cuts was only fair at steady prices.

The moderate supply of veal and calf included all grades and weights but a fair portion showed grassy characteristics. Quality was an influencing factor with bulk failing to attract enough buyer interest to support higher asking prices. Small lamb receipts consisted mainly of spring carcasses, with weights under 50# predominating. Prices spiralled upward with all grades and weights along with wholesale cuts sharing in daily advances. Foresaddles and related wholesale cuts were in good demand and registered greatest upturns.

A moderate to small supply of Western dressed fresh pork cleared readily at sharply higher prices. Early clearances enabled local wholesalers to offer frozen loins which sold from $42.00-48.00. The full advance was recorded on fresh loins and spareribs.

Locally Dressed Fresh Meats

The available supply of locally dressed fresh meats was comparable to that of the previous period. Volume of steer beef and veal was normal, other classes mostly moderate. Slaughtering operations were suspended Wednesday for Memorial Day observance. Supply and demand were well balanced as the total volume on offer proved ample. Steer prices held strong to higher, and upturns of $1.00 or more were recorded on kosher steer beef. Veal and calf sold about steady under pressure, while spring lamb and fresh pork prices moved upward. Prices on kosher lamb foresaddles advanced to a level on par with carcass quotations.

Beef rib and loin cuts moved dependably on all sessions, with hotel supply outlets most aggressive in pre-holiday trading. Hindquarter prices held fully steady, while ribs and loin cuts sold higher. Buyer resistance to higher prices on arm chucks and rounds held these items steady. Wholesale cuts of kosher beef netted upturns of $1.00 or more, the advance mainly on selected lots.

Prices of veal and calf held mostly steady on early days, but weakness developed toward the close. Daily kills consisted of all grades and weights, but a fair portion of the total was made up of lower grades. Moderate lamb kills consisted mainly of spring carcasses under 50#. Higher prices were posted daily, but retailers operated conservatively, holding purchases to essential requirements. Demand for foresaddles and related cuts was extremely broad, but movement of lamb legs was slow in spots. Net advances of $5.00 or more were shown on kosher spring lamb foresaddles in a brisk trade.

Sharply higher prices were posted on most primal cuts of locally dressed fresh pork. Trade was rather slow but outlet was dependable and full clearances were expected.

CHICAGO WHOLESALE MEAT TRADE REVIEW

Suspension of slaughtering on Wednesday reduced fresh meat offerings but available supplies in most instances were sufficient for trade requirements. Bulk of the steer and heifer beef graded Choice, with veal mostly 80-130# Commercial to average-Choice. Lamb supply was small, bulk being old crop carcasses. Fresh pork volume was moderate. Broader outlets on the local market, and increased demand from the East influenced substantial price upturns on carcass beef. In beef cuts, Choice ribs and loins were most active, these selling at higher prices, while rounds were rather slow. Veal under 80# sold fairly dependably, other weights slow. Trading on carcass lamb and fresh pork was moderately active, but prices worked higher as replacement costs advanced. Boston butts and spareribs were most wanted pork items, while forequarter meat enjoyed best clearance in lamb cuts. Advancing costs, shorter supplies and improvement in trade at Eastern markets were all factors in the week's higher fresh meat prices. Clearances will be good. Compared to last Thursday's close: Beef mostly $2.00-2.50 higher; veal steady; old crop lamb $1.00 higher; spring lamb mostly $2.00-2.50 higher; pork loins 8-16# $3.00-4.50 higher, other pork cuts $2.00-4.00 higher. Choice and Prime squarecut beef chucks brought $28.00-29.00, comparable rounds $41.00-43.00; Prime loins $80.00-85.00, Choice $65.00-69.00; Prime ribs $55.00-57.00, Choice ribs $45.00-48.00; Choice and Prime kosher style beef chucks earned $27.00-29.00. Lamb hindsaddles brought $60.00-65.00, legs $51.00-55.00; loins $75.00-80.00, hotel ribs $70.00-75.00.

PACIFIC COAST WHOLESALE MEAT TRADE REVIEW

A four-day kill on the part of most packers made for smaller supplies on the West Coast. Choice and Good steer beef under 600# was most limited in the Los Angeles area although adequate for a reduced demand. Veal and calf carcasses were adequate at most points except for a limited volume of calf in the Pacific Northwest. Small supplies of lamb were adequate with Choice predominating in the Northwest, and an excessive supply of Good in California. Moderate offerings of fresh and cured pork cuts were adequate with advancing prices/retarding factor. Trading after the holiday was slow with most purchases for fill-in needs only. Prices compared with last week's close: Steer beef mostly steady, instances Choice 700-800# 50¢ higher and Good under 600# $1.00 higher at Los Angeles; cow beef steady, instances $1.00 lower at Portland; veal and calf steady in California and $1.00 lower in the Northwest; spring lamb steady to $1.00 lower; fresh and cured pork strong to $4.00 higher, loins and smoked skinned hams showing the most advance; lard steady.

Choice steer carcasses under 700# cashed mostly from $32.00-36.00, few specialty lots under 500# to $37.00 at Los Angeles, 700-800# $31.00-33.00; Good 500-700# $29.00-34.00; Commercial $27.00-32.00; Utility down to $26.00 at Los Angeles. Commercial cow carcasses sold from $24.00-28.00, few soft-boned to $30.00 at San Francisco; Utility $23.00-27.00; Canner and Cutter $17.00-24.00.

Good and Choice veal carcasses under 150# brought mostly $36.00-44.00; Commercial $32.00-39.00; Good and Choice calf under 300# $31.00-40.00. Choice and Prime spring lamb brought $47.00-51.00; Good $40.00-47.00. Closely trimmed pork loins under 16# $53.00-60.00; shoulders under 16# $27.00-35.00; Boston butts under 8# $35.00-42.00; smoked skinned hams under 18# $52.00-60.00; sliced 1# packages of bacon $41.00-49.00; lard in 1# cartons $14.50-20.00.

WHOLESALE DRESSED MEAT PRICES: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS

In dollars per 100 pounds

Classification	New York			Chicago			San Francisco		
	May 31 1956	May 26 1956	June 4 1955	May 31 1956	May 26 1956	June 4 1955	May 31 1956	May 26 1956	June 4 1955
Beef –									
Steer –									
Prime 600–700#	39.25	39.25	--	37.08	36.00	42.75	--	--	--
700–800	38.25	38.25	43.50	37.08	36.00	43.62	--	--	--
Choice 500–600	--	--	--	35.58	33.55	37.75	35.50	35.50	40.00
600–700	36.00	35.50	40.50	35.58	33.55	38.00	34.00	34.00	38.50
Good 350–600	32.25	32.25	35.00	33.00	31.20	35.50	33.00	33.00	38.00
Com'l. " "	28.00	28.00	31.00	30.00	28.75	32.25	30.00	30.00	35.00
Cow, all wts. –									
Commercial	28.00	28.00	28.50	--	--	--	28.50	28.50	30.00
Utility	26.50	26.50	25.00	--	--	--	25.50	25.50	26.50
Veal –									
Prime 80–110#	40.50	40.50	42.00	42.50	42.50	41.50	--	--	--
Choice " "	36.33	36.30	36.00	37.00	37.00	37.00	--	--	--
Good " "	33.50	33.80	33.50	35.00	35.00	35.00	41.00	41.00	39.00
Spring lamb –									
Prime 40–50#	56.17	52.40	46.75	49.67*	49.00*	41.50*	47.50	48.10	40.00
50–60	--	--	--	48.67*	48.00*	37.25*	46.50	46.70	38.00
Choice 40–50	56.17	52.40	46.75	49.67*	49.00*	40.00*	47.50	47.70	39.00
50–60	--	--	--	48.67*	48.00*	36.25*	46.00	46.00	37.00
Good all wts.	48.17	43.00	40.00	43.83*	44.10*	33.50*	44.00	44.00	37.00
Pork – Fresh –									
Loins 8–10# av.	56.00	50.60	51.50	53.33	49.30	50.50	56.00	53.00	55.00
10–12 "	56.00	50.60	51.50	53.33	49.30	50.50	58.00	55.00	53.00
12–16 "	54.67	49.00	48.25	52.25	48.15	46.75	56.00	53.00	51.00
Butts 4–8 "	40.17	35.00	34.00	37.42	33.55	33.75	38.66	36.00	39.50
Pork – Cured –									
Hams, smk., skd. –									
12–16# av.	50.50	52.50	53.50	54.75	54.20	52.88	56.00	56.00	55.00
16–18 "	46.50	47.30	49.00	54.33	53.30	51.00	54.00	54.00	53.00
18–20 "	--	--	--	53.33	51.65	49.50	--	--	--
Bacon, smk., slab –									
6–8# av.	--	--	--	35.58	34.75	44.12	40.00	40.00	51.00
8–10 "	34.50	34.50	44.00	34.42	34.00	41.88	38.00	38.00	48.00
Sliced 1 # pkg.	40.50	42.00	49.75	41.92	40.45	50.62	44.00	44.00	51.00
Picnics, smoked –									
4–8# av.	29.00	28.00	34.50	33.33	33.10	35.25	32.00	30.00	36.00
Backs, D. S. –									
16–20# av.	15.50	16.00	15.00	12.75	12.75	11.25	--	--	--
Lard, 1# cartons –									
Refined	17.50	17.25	16.75	16.25	16.25	14.75	19.00	19.00	18.50
Substitutes	--	--	--	31.00	32.50	27.00	--	--	--

Note: Quotations at New York exclude locally dressed meats.
*Old-crop lambs.

BOSTON WOOL MARKET REVIEW

Trade in the Boston wool market was definitely slower than a week ago as approximately twenty-four cars of various greasy domestic worsted wools were sold mostly to the vertical mills. Medium grade wools continued in good demand at steady to firm prices. Turnover of woolen wools remained slow with some improvement in the movement of noils as prices were about unchanged compared to last week. Topmakers were again active in the territory States. There was a stronger price tone evident in Texas while the fleece wool clip was being bought up rapidly.

Cabled reports from Australia showed very firm prices with a rising tendency as Japan and the Continent dominated under keen general competition. Trade in South Africa was featured by good competition at slightly weaker prices at the closing sale of the year, May 30. There was some indication that prices for coarse Argentine wools were slightly easier while Uruguay was quiet at unchanged prices.

Fleece Wools - Graded fine staple Ohio Delaine wool sold at $1.30-1.31 clean basis while strictly warp staple, choice 60/64s Ohio fleeces moved at $1.20, and graded 56/58s good French combing and staple fleeces brought $1.04 and $1.05 clean. Graded 50/54s good French and staple fleece wool around 57¢ in the grease sold in a range from $1.00-1.02 while medium grade seedy and burry fleeces sold at a grease price of 46½¢. Country buyers paid mostly 42¢-44¢ for fine wool and 41¢-43¢ for medium grades to the growers.

Territory Wools - Graded 64s good French combing and staple territory wool sold at $1.30 clean basis while original bag bulk fine and half blood good French and staple moved at $1.20 clean, and mixed or grading clips in original bags brought around $1.08. A good sized clip of bulk fine, good French combing and staple territory wool sold in the west at an estimated clean cost around $1.28 delivered Boston while another lot of original bag wool brought 50¢ grease basis, f.o.b.

Texas Wools - Average style 12 months Texas wool in original bags sold around $1.28 clean basis.

Mohair - Adult mohair sold in Texas at 86½¢ to the warehouse. Adult hair with 10 percent of kid was quoted at 96½¢ while all kid in original bags was priced at $1.00 f.o.b. About 1,000,000 pounds of mohair remained unsold in Texas.

Sales of CCC Wools - The Commodity Credit Corporation announced on May 31, 1956 that approximately 369,000 pounds of C.C.C.-owned wools were sold from bids received on a total of about 1,893,000 pounds. The principal grades, quantities and sales price ranges of greasy shorn wools (before discounts, if any) follow:

	Pounds	Price
Original bag Texas 8 months best length	34,154	$1.153
Graded fleece 1/4 blood staple and good French 48/50s	17,461	1.002

Foreign Wools - Greasy Buenos Aires March 36/40s second clips sold for shipment at 80¢ clean fibers present in bond while greasy New Zealand 50s lambs wool sold for shipment around $1.06 clean basis, duty paid. Cabled quotations at week's end based on clean U. S. yields in bond, follow: Australian type 77, $1.47; 78 $1.45; 79 $1.36; 80 $1.32 and 432/3 $1.27. Cape markets closed: Type 27 $1.20; 28 $1.17; 32 $1.16; 33 $1.13. Quote super-Monte 60/64s, 70½¢, grease basis.

Carpet Wools - Trade in carpet wools was practically at a standstill. Prices remained nominally unchanged since no offerings were received to establish prices. Commencing on June 5 there will be a three-day sale of 12,000 bales of Pakistan/India carpet wools.

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS FOR LIVESTOCK, FEED AND WOOL 1/

Commodity and unit		May 15 1956	Apr. 15 1956	Mar. 15 1956	May 15 1955	Average Jan. 1947-Dec. 1949
Farm prices -						
Hogs per 100 lb.	Dollars	15.50	14.30	12.30	16.40	21.90
Beef cattle " "	"	15.40	15.00	14.40	16.30	20.20
Calves " "	"	17.30	16.80	16.70	17.10	22.60
Sheep " "	"	6.00	6.28	6.28	5.93	9.15
Lambs " "	"	21.50	18.20	18.10	18.40	21.90
Wool per pound	"	2/.411	2/.403	2/.399	2/.459	.460
Corn per bushel	"	1.39	1.32	1.20	1.40	1.64
Oats " "	"	.634	.623	.618	.715	.852
Barley " "	"	.963	.949	.925	1.07	1.37
Hay, all baled per ton	"	20.90	21.00	20.90	22.20	22.40
Cottonseed " "	"	47.30	46.90	46.80	53.10	71.60
						May av. 1935-54
Hog-corn price ratio 3/						
United States	Bushel	11.2	10.8	10.2	11.7	12.6
N. Central States	"	11.2	11.0	10.4	11.9	13.3
Iowa	"	11.1	10.8	10.4	11.4	--
Index numbers: (Av. Jan. 1910 - Dec. 1914 = 100)						1947-49
All farm products		242	235*	228*	242*	271
Feed grains and hay		192	185	174	200	230
Meat animals		251	237	221	260	334
Prices paid by farmers -						
All commodities		264	261	261	263	240

1/ Estimates of Crop Reporting Board. 2/ Average local market price for wool sold; does not include incentive payment to bring season average return to 62¢ per pound. 3/ Number of bushels of corn equal in value to 100 pounds of hog, live wt. *Revised.

EFFECTIVE PARITY PRICES FOR LIVESTOCK, FEED AND WOOL 1/

Commodity and unit		Base period price 2/	Effective parity prices 3/ May 15 1956	Apr. 15 1956	May 15 1955
Hogs per 100 lb.	Dollars	7.47	21.40	21.20	21.30
Beef cattle " "	"	7.55	21.60	21.40	21.30
Calves " "	"	8.26	23.60	23.50	23.30
Lambs " "	"	8.30	23.70	23.60	23.30
Wool per pound	"	4/ .214	.612	.608	.592
Corn per bushel	"	5/ .642	6/ 1.77	6/1.74	1.82
Oats " "	"	.301	.861	.855	.860
Barley " "	"	.472	1.35	1.34	1.34
Cottonseed per ton	"	24.70	70.60	70.10	71.10

1/ Parity prices are computed under the provisions of Title III, Subtitle A, Section 301 (a) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 as amended by the Agricultural Acts of 1948, 1949 and 1954. 2/ Adjusted base price 1910-14 derived from 120 month, January 1946-December 1955, average, (including an allowance where appropriate for unredeemed loans and other supplemental payments resulting from price support operations) by dividing by 265 percent (the 120-month average of the Index of prices Received by Farmers adjusted to include an allowance for unredeemed loans and other supplementary payments) unless otherwise noted. Base period prices shown apply for 1956 only. 3/ Effective parity prices as computed currently in months indicated using base period prices and indexes then in effect. 4/ Adjusted base price 1910-14 derived from 10 season average prices 1946-55 (including an allowance where appropriate, for unredeemed loans and other supplemental payments resulting from price support operations). 5/ 60-month average August 1909-July 1914. 6/ Transitional parity, basic commodities 95 percent and nonbasic commodities 65 percent (70 percent during 1955) of parity price computed under formula in use prior to January 1, 1950.

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LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERED, UNITED STATES, APRIL 1956, WITH COMPARISONS 1/

Month and period	Cattle: Federally Inspected	Cattle: Other wholesale & retail	Cattle: Total	Cattle: Av. live weight	Calves: Federally Inspected	Calves: Other wholesale & retail	Calves: Total	Calves: Av. live weight
	Thousand head			Pounds	Thousand head			Pounds
Apr. 1956	1,544.7	523.8	2,068.5	970	603.5	354.7	958.2	210
Mar. 1956	1,566.0	514.8	2,080.8	973	646.7	386.3	1,033.0	197
Jan.-Apr.1956	6,291.1	2,112.4	8,403.5	977	2,438.1	1,467.5	3,905.6	207
Jan.-Apr.1955 2/	5,810.5	2,138.6	7,949.1	942	2,335.9	1,619.6	3,955.5	202

Month and period	Hogs				Sheep and lambs			
Apr. 1956	5,252.0	1,014.8	6,266.8	231	1,129.3	142.6	1,271.9	99
Mar. 1956	6,326.6	1,205.5	7,532.1	228	1,215.8	151.1	1,366.9	101
Jan.-Apr.1956	24,206.2	4,769.6	28,975.8	231	4,837.3	611.8	5,449.1	100
Jan.-Apr.1955 2/	20,119.9	4,614.9	24,734.8	238	4,726.9	559.6	5,286.5	101

1/ Excludes farm slaughter. "Other wholesale and retail" slaughter is estimated.
2/ Revised.

MEAT AND LARD PRODUCTION, UNITED STATES, APRIL 1956 1/

Month and period	Beef	Veal	Pork 2/	Lamb and mutton	Total meat 2/	Lard 3/
	Million Pounds					
Apr. 1956	1,121	112	813	60	2,106	207
Mar. 1956	1,131	113	955	66	2,265	254
Jan.-Apr. 1956	4,568	448	3,754	262	9,032	966
Jan.-Apr. 1955 4/	4,094	442	3,359	256	8,151	830

1/ Excludes farm slaughter. 2/ Excludes lard and rendered pork fat.
3/ Includes rendered pork fat. 4/ Revised.

Agricultural Estimates Division